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[83 STAT.

and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-fourth.

Proclamation 3927

NATIONAL EMPLOY THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED WEEK, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During the past three decades, this Nation has made great progress in helping handicapped Americans find work. Seven million men and women have overcome disabilities and found a place for themselves in industry, commerce, and the professions.

As favorable as are the statistics documenting this achievement, there are still many handicapped persons in need of rehabilitation. Programs are needed which will continue and expand the work which has already been done.

Yet even the best programs are not enough if they are not matched by a growth of understanding on the part of employers and the public at large. Misconceptions concerning disability must be supplanted by facts.

We must help the physically handicapped not only because it enables them to build better lives, but also because an American who is employed despite his handicap can help to build a better nation for all of us.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, in accordance with the joint resolution of Congress approved August 11, 1945 (59 Stat. 530), designating the first full week of October of each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, do hereby call upon the people of our Nation to observe the week beginning October 5, 1969, for such purpose.

During that week I urge all the Governors of States, mayors of cities, and other public officials, as well as leaders of industry, educational and religious groups, labor, civic, veterans', agricultural, women's, scientific, professional, and fraternal organizations, and all other interested organizations and individuals, including the handicapped themselves, to participate in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred ninety-fourth.

Proclamation 3928
LEIF ERIKSON DAY, 1969

By The President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Leif Erikson and his crew of adventurous Norse seafarers sailed across the northern seas nearly a thousand years ago and landed on the

36 USC 155.

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shores of North America. These resourceful explorers opened new horizons to the west—a truly courageous and historic achievement.

Born of vision, courage and determination, Leif Erikson's success became an inspiration for later accomplishments. The spirit of Leif Erikson has continued to inspire millions of people, particularly the ten million Americans whose ancestors came from the Viking lands.

It is especially appropriate that we recognize Leif Erikson's explorations in 1969, the year in which a new kind of explorers landed on the moon and returned home to inspire all mankind from now on.

I am honored to comply with the request of the Congress of the United States, in a joint resolution approved September 2, 1964 (78 Stat. 849), that the President proclaim October 9 in each year as Leif Erikson Day.

36 USC 169c.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, October 9, 1969, as Leif Erikson Day; and I direct the appropriate government officials to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings on that day.

I also invite the people of the United States to honor the memory of Leif Erikson on that day by holding appropriate exercises and ceremonies in schools and churches, or other suitable places.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-fourth.

Richard Wigen

Proclamation 3929 COLUMBUS DAY, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

September 11, 1969

A Proclamation

On October 12 we again celebrate in honor of the great sea captain and explorer whose historic westward voyage across the Atlantic led to the permanent settlement of America.

Respect for the achievement of Christopher Columbus is especially appropriate this year when we have witnessed an epic journey of discovery, the journey to the moon. Both the voyages of Columbus and those of our modern astronauts are expressions of man's great ambition to confront the unknown, and to master the challenges of distance and space.

We remember also that Columbus was a man of Italy, a noble example for the many other men of Italy who have come to our country and to so many other lands of the new world. Sailing in the service of the Spanish crown, which had the vision to support his courage and initiative, Christopher Columbus opened America for all the people of the world.

In tribute to the memory of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America.

36 USC 146.